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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sSB 876

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND ROOF PITCH REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes \$510.1 million in state general obligation bonds for grant commitments to 27 local school construction projects. It also reauthorizes and increases bond grant commitments for (1) six previously authorized local projects whose cost and scope have changed and (2) a previously authorized state technical high school system project.

Under the school construction grant program, local districts are reimbursed by the state Department of Construction Services for eligible costs of a construction project. Each district's reimbursement rate is individually determined based on the district's ranking by wealth among all of the state's districts. Poorer districts are reimbursed at a higher rate than wealthier districts.

The bill also changes the minimum roof pitch required on school roofs for them to be eligible a state reimbursement from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch per foot to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch per foot, the standard used in the State Building Code. Under current law there are exceptions to the  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch requirement that allow  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon passage, except that the provision changing the roof pitch is effective July 1, 2013.

#### **SCHOOL PROJECTS**

##### ***New Authorizations***

Table 1 shows the 27 new school projects the bill authorizes.

**Table 1: New School Construction Projects Authorized**

<b>School District</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Estimated Project Costs</b>	<b>Estimated Grant</b>	<b>State Reimbursement</b>
CREC	Greater Hartford Acad. of Arts Elementary Magnet	New construction/site purchase	\$49,673,596	\$39,738,877	80%
CREC	Greater Hartford Acad. of Arts Middle Magnet	New construction/site purchase	74,614,104	59,691,283	80%
CREC	Two Rivers Magnet High School	New construction/site purchase	108,308,509	86,646,807	80%
East Windsor	Broad Brook Elementary	Extension & energy conservation	3,770,000	2,181,322	60%
Ellington	Crystal Lake School	Extension & alteration/site purchase/roof replacement	\$18,457,497	\$10,744,109	57.5%
Ellington	Windermere School	Alteration	2,582,503	1,503,275	60%
Greenwich	Greenwich High School	Extension & alteration	30,115,000	6,023,000	20%
Hartford	Weaver High School	Alteration/roof replacement/energy conservation	100,000,000	80,000,000	80%
Milford	East Shore Middle School	Extension & alteration	18,950,000	10,422,500	50%
Naugatuck	Naugatuck High School	Extension & alteration/energy conservation	77,967,900	58,475,925	74.6%
Naugatuck	Central Administration	Extension & alteration	3,032,100	1,137,038	74.6%
Norwalk	Rowayton School	Extension & alteration	7,695,260	2,473,257	32%
Norwalk	Naramake Elementary School	Extension & alteration	4,139,284	1,330,366	32%
Regional District 16	Region 16 PK-5 Elementary School	New construction	36,609,000	21,310,099	55.7%
Regional District 16	Laurel Ledge School	Extension & alteration/roof replacement	7,746,000	5,283,547	65.7%
Regional District 16	Central Administration	Alteration	2,371,000	808,630	40.7%
Regional District 18	Mile Creek School	Energy conservation	597,900	209,265	35.5%
Regional District 6	Wamogo Regional H.S.	Equipment	61,740	49,392	40.7%

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Rocky Hill	Rocky Hill High School	Extension & alteration/roof replacement	44,955,000	19,910,570	48.6%
Southington	Joseph A. DePaolo Middle School	Extension & alteration/site purchase/roof replacement	45,000,000	25,231,500	53.9%
Southington	John F. Kennedy Middle School	Extension & alteration/site purchase/roof replacement	45,000,000	25,231,500	53.9%
Stamford	Dolan School	Energy conservation	1,225,019	354,398	29.3%
Stamford	Davenport Ridge School	Energy conservation	1,000,000	528,600	29.3%
Wallingford	Mark T. Sheehan High School	Energy conservation	174,135	87,694	51.8%
Wallingford	Lyman Hall High School	Energy conservation	131,135	66,040	51.8%
Waterbury	John F. Kennedy High School	Extension & alteration	25,232,000	12,706,835	78.2%
Wethersfield	Wethersfield High School	Extension & alteration/roof replacement	74,816,617	37,939,506	56.4%

### ***Reauthorizations***

The bill also reauthorizes bonds for seven previously authorized projects whose scope or cost have changed substantially (see Table 2).

**Table 2: State and Local Projects for Reauthorization**

<b><i>School District</i></b>	<b><i>School</i></b>	<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>Originally authorized costs</i></b>	<b><i>Requested costs under the bill</i></b>	<b><i>Change in cost</i></b>
Brooklyn	Brooklyn Middle School	Extension & alteration	\$1,700,000	\$2,065,000	\$365,000
Connecticut Technical High School System	Eli Whitney (Hamden)	Extension & alteration	98,000,000	104,075,000	6,075,000
CREC	International Magnet for Global Citizenship	New construction/site purchase	26,564,305	31,581,500	5,017,195
Eastford	Eastford Elementary School	Energy conservation	150,000	409,271	259,271
Meriden	Francis Maloney High School	Renovation & extension*	107,500,000	107,500,000	0
New Haven	East Rock	New	40,000,000	49,000,000	9,000,000

	Global Magnet (new)	construction			
Stratford	Honeyspot House (Stratford Academy)	New construction	13,850,654	15,850,000	1,999,346
*This project reauthorization is solely to change the scope of the project to include purchase of land.					

**ROOF PITCH REQUIREMENT**

The bill also changes the minimum roof pitch required for school roofs to be eligible for a state reimbursement from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch per foot to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch per foot. It does this by requiring that the roof pitch conform to the State Building Code, which requires a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch pitch per foot for the type of roofs that can be used on schools. It also allows some exceptions under which a roof could have a  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch pitch.

Under current law, there are exceptions to the  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch requirement that allow  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/28/2013)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 49 Nay 0 (04/12/2013)